

I'm concerned about the lack of clear-cut and strong privacy protections in the named proceeding (regarding VoIP regulation). The FCC seems almost eager to apply to Internet technologies the same type of regulatory oversight given to the telecom industry, ignoring the very significant differences between the two. The Internet, and Internet-enabled businesses, are not Ma Bell, and should not be treated as such. The wiretap and location-identification laws that apply to the traditional telephone network should not simply be applied as-is to businesses operating under an entirely different model. The lack of physical infrastructure (in wireless services, the absence of anything even remotely approaching a monopoly, and the constant flux of the network (nodes and network links are constantly being added, modified, moved and deleted) require a much different brand of oversight, and a significant degree of caution in the application of regulatory powers to avoid stifling emerging technologies.

I ask that the FCC give equal time and consideration to protecting the privacy rights of citizens and the ability of entrepreneurs and forward-thinkers to innovate, as is currently given to lobbyists for long-established monopolies (like the ILECs and other common carriers). This is a new era in communications and technology, and it requires fresh thinking and restraint in formulating regulatory policy.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,
Scott Francis